GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4208
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ERADICATION OF URBAN POVERTY
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Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated urban population living below the poverty line;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted recently to identify the number of urban poor;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any comprehensive plan has been formulated for eradication of urban poverty; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA)

(a)to(c): The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) has conducted the latest large sample survey on household consumer expenditure (61st Round), covering the period July 2004 to June 2005. From this data, two different consumption distributions for the year 2004-05 have been obtained. The first one is from the consumption data collected using 30-day recall period for all the items. The other distribution is obtained from the consumer expenditure data collected using 365-day recall period for five infrequently purchased non-food items, namely, clothing, footwear durable goods, education and institutional medical expenses and 30-day recall period for the remaining items. These two consumption distributions have been termed as Uniform Recall Period (URP) consumption distribution and Mixed Recall Period (MRP) consumption distribution respectively. The Planning Commission has estimated poverty in 2004-05 using both the distributions. As per the URP Consumption Method, the number of urban poor in 2004-05 has been estimated as 807.96 Lakhs in the country. Similarly, as per the MRP Consumption Method, the number of urban poor in 2004-2005 has been estimated as 682.00 Lakhs in the country.

(d)&(e): With a view to ameliorate the living conditions of the urban poor and to reduce the urban poverty in the country, Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is already implementing a Centrally sponsored urban poverty alleviation scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis since 1.12.1997. The Scheme of SJSRY strives to provide self-employment to the urban poor by assisting them to set up individual/group micro-enterprises and also through provision of wage employment by utilising their labour in construction of useful public assets.